OIP Stromey Docket No. 5649-1112

<u>PATENT</u>

En fer W |RCE 12/22/8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

gree: Jae-hyoung Choi et al;

Conf. No.: 6037 Group Art Unit: 2812

Application No.: 10/629,430 Filed: July 29, 2003

Examiner: Jennifer M. Kennedy

For: METHODS OF FORMING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES INCLUDING THERMAL PROCESSING

Date: December 20, 2005

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FOR ENTRY WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Sir:

Applicants provide this Preliminary Amendment to present claims for consideration with a Request For Continued Examination filed concurrently herewith. Because the Advisory Action of 4 November 2005 states that the Amendment After Final of 18 October 2005 "will <u>not</u> be entered...", this Preliminary Amendment amends the claims as presented in the Amendment of 20 June 2005.

It is not believed that an extension of time and/or additional fee(s)-including fees for net addition of claims-are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. In the event, however, that an extension of time is necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such an extension is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Any additional fees believed to be due in connection with this paper may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.